

7/17/24

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
HARRISONBURG DIVISION

LAURA A. AUSTIN, CLERK
BY: s/ K Dotson
DEPUTY CLERK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
)
v.) Case No. 5:24MJ00049
)
MICHAEL ANTHONY COMER,) **ORDER**
Defendant.)

The Defendant came before the Court for a detention hearing on July 17, 2024. The Government moved for detention.

Based on the nature of the offense charged, the Court shall hold a detention hearing upon the Government's motion to detain the Defendant pending trial. 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1)(E) (certain felonies involving minor victims, unregistered sex offenders, firearms, or other dangerous weapons). In this case, there is a rebuttable presumption of pretrial detention. *See id.* § 3142(e)(3)(E) (assuming flight and safety risk in certain cases involving minor victims). At the detention hearing, the Court shall consider the factors in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(g) to determine whether any condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure that the Defendant neither flees nor poses a danger to another person or to the community if released pending trial.

Based on the evidence presented, including but not limited to the following, the Court finds that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the safety of another person or the community (by clear and convincing evidence) if the Defendant is released at this time:

The Complaint alleges that the Defendant contacted a thirteen-year-old and enticed the minor to create sexually explicit images and send them to the Defendant in return for payment. The attorney for the Government proffered that Defendant had communications of this nature with ten or more other minors. Given the harmful nature of defendant's alleged conduct and the

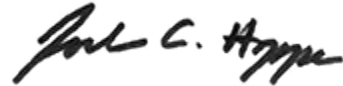
multiple minor victims involved, no conditions exist that would reasonably protect the community from him.

It is therefore ORDERED that the Defendant be detained pending further proceedings in this case.

Directions Regarding Detention

The Defendant is committed to the custody of the Attorney General or his designated representative for confinement in a corrections facility separate, to the extent practicable, from persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal. The Defendant shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity for private consultation with defense counsel. On order of a court of the United States or on request of an attorney for the Government, the person in charge of the corrections facility shall deliver the Defendant to the United States Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in connection with a court proceeding.

ENTERED: July 17, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel C. Hoppe".

Joel C. Hoppe
United States Magistrate Judge